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Title: Need to increase the number as well as amount of money of various scholarships awarded to the students in country.

SHRI A. SAMPATH (ATTINGAL): Various Scholarships provided by the Ministry of HRD and also by the ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment to students either on the basis of merit or on the basis of socio- economic condition need to be increased both amount-wise and number-wise. While the rate of inflation and the cost of living have become very high, the amount of scholarship awarded to students is inadequate to meet even their urgent needs. The allotment of the Planning Commission in this regard is very low and without any justification. Some of the schemes are not at all useful for intended beneficiaries.

Hence, I urge upon the GOI to immediately hold consultations with various stake holders and to ensure that the number and the amount of various scholarships are increased in accordance with the present day realities.